

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

531 Rec'APCT/PT 15 JAN 2002
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sh

of

Complete if known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor **Marcus EII**

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number: To be assigned

Attorney Docket Number 02597

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner
Signature

Bradford C Parker

Date
Considered

11-18-04

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/031,218
		Filing Date	01/15/2002
		First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	To be assigned
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	02597

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature	Bradford C. Hartman	Date Considered	11-18-04
-----------------------	---------------------	--------------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

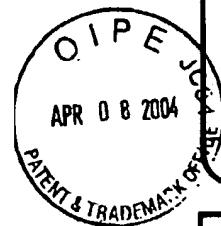
¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/031,218
Filing Date	January 15, 2002
First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.
Group Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Unknown

Attorney Docket Number 02597

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
hsp	1.	3,270,745		Wood	09/06/1966	
	2.	3,854,482		Laugherty et al.	12/25/1974	
	3.	3,926,195		Bleier et al.	12/25/1975	
	4.	4,418,694		Berooff et al.	12/01/1983	
	5.	4,424,810		Jewusiak	01/01/1984	
	6.	4,489,725		Casey Donn et al.	12/25/1984	
	7.	4,702,247		Blake III et al.	10/27/1987	
	8.	4,822,348		Casey	04/01/1989	
	9.	4,942,886		Timmons	07/01/1990	
	10.	4,988,355		Leveen et al.	01/01/1991	
hsp	11.	5,002,552		Casey Donn	03/26/1991	
	12.	5,171,250		Yoon	12/15/1992	
	13.	5,219,353		Garvey, III et al.	06/15/1993	
	14.	5,282,812		Suarez, Jr.	01/01/1994	
	15.	5,359,993		Slater et al.	11/01/1994	
	16.	5,437,680		Yoon	8/1/1995	
	17.	5,478,003		Green et al.	12/26/1995	
	18.	5,507,297		Slater et al.	04/16/1996	
	19.	5,695,505		Yoon	12/09/1997	
hsp	20.	5,849,019		Yoon Inbae	12/15/1998	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ² (if known)				
hsp	21.	GB	886356		Kariher et al.	01/03/1962		
hsp	22.	GB	972 731		Gerendas	10/14/1964		
	23.	DE	27 32 326		Gebruder Sulzer AG	01/11/1979		
	24.	EP	0 220 643		U.S. Surgical Corp	05/06/1987		
	25.	GB	2 243 789		Femcare Limited	11/13/1991		
	26.	WO	95/13023		Innovative Surg	05/18/1995		
	27.	GB	2,177,748		Femcare Limited	01/28/1987		
	28.	GB	2,297,487		Ezech Uchechukwu	08/07/1996		
	29.	WO	0105309		Femcare Limited	01/25/2001		
hsp	30.	GB	1,530,282		Filshie	10/25/1978		

Examiner Signature

Bradford C. Pantzer

Date Considered

11-18-04

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

A circular stamp with the text "OIPE" at the top, "APR 08 2004" in the center, and "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" at the bottom.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/031,218
		Filing Date	January 15, 2002
		First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.
		Group Art Unit	3761
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	2	of	3
		Attorney Docket Number	02597

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
BP	33.	GB	2,251,794		Casey Medical Prod	07/22/1992	
	34.	GB	2,226,958		Femcare Limited	07/18/1990	
	35.	WO	91/08708		Yoon	06/27/1991	
	36.	DE	40 15 562		Storz	11/21/1991	
	37.	EP	0 916 309		Schilder	05/19/1999	
	38.	EP	0 820 725		USSC	01/28/1998	
	39.	WO	94/15537		Yoon	07/21/1994	
	40.	GB	2,054,384		Trewavas	02/18/1981	
	41.	FR	2 709 944		Cuilleron	03/24/1995	
BP	42.	EP	0087941		Ethicon	09/07/1983	

Examiner Signature	Bradford C. Clarken	Date Considered	11-18-04
-----------------------	---------------------	--------------------	----------

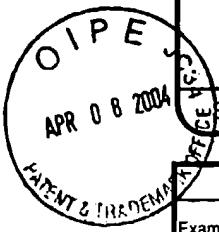
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/031,218
		Filing Date	January 15, 2002
		First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.
		Group Art Unit	3761
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	3	of	3
		Attorney Docket Number	02597



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

1

三

of

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/031,218
Filing Date	January 15, 2002
First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.
Group Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	02597

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature	Bradford C. Carter	Date Considered	11-18-04
-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.
DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/031,218
Filing Date	January 15, 2002
First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.
Group Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Unknown

Attorney Docket Number 02597

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
pp	1.	3,270,745		Wood	09/06/1966	
	2.	3,854,482		Laugherty et al.	12/25/1974	
	3.	3,926,195		Bleier et al.	12/25/1975	
	4.	4,418,694		Beroff et al.	12/01/1983	
	5.	4,424,810		Jewusiak	01/01/1984	
	6.	4,489,725		Casey Donn et al.	12/25/1984	
	7.	4,702,247		Blake III et al.	10/27/1987	
	8.	4,822,348		Casey	04/01/1989	
	9.	4,942,886		Timmons	07/01/1990	
pp	10.	4,988,355		Leveen et al.	01/01/1991	
	11.	5,002,552		Casey Donn	03/26/1991	
	12.	5,171,250		Yoon	12/15/1992	
	13.	5,219,353		Garvey, III et al.	06/15/1993	
	14.	5,282,812		Suarez, Jr.	01/01/1994	
	15.	5,359,993		Slater et al.	11/01/1994	
	16.	5,437,680		Yoon	8/1/1995	
	17.	5,478,003		Green et al.	12/26/1995	
	18.	5,507,297		Slater et al.	04/16/1996	
	19.	5,695,505		Yoon	12/09/1997	
pp	20.	5,849,019		Yoon Inbae	12/15/1998	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ² (if known)				
pp	21.	GB	886356		Kariher et al.	01/03/1962		
	22.	GB	972 731		Gerendas	10/14/1964		
	23.	DE	27 32 326		Gebruder Sulzer AG	01/11/1979		
	24.	EP	0 220 643		U.S. Surgical Corp	05/06/1987		
	25.	GB	2 243 789		Femcare Limited	11/13/1991		
	26.	WO	95/13023		Innovative Surg	05/18/1995		
	27.	GB	2,177,748		Femcare Limited	01/28/1987		
	28.	GB	2,297,487		Ezech Uchechukwu	08/07/1996		
	29.	WO	0105309		Femcare Limited	01/25/2001		
pp	30.	GB	1,530,282		Filshie	10/25/1978		

Examiner
Signature*Bradford C. Martin*Date
Considered

11-18-04

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbol as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/031,218
		Filing Date	January 15, 2002
		First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.
		Group Art Unit	3761
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	2	of	3
		Attorney Docket Number	02597

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ³	Number ⁴			
JP	33.	GB	2,251,794	Casey Medical Prod	07/22/1992	
	34.	GB	2,226,958	Femcare Limited	07/18/1990	
	35.	WO	91/08708	Yoon	06/27/1991	
	36.	DE	40 15 562	Storz	11/21/1991	
	37.	EP	0 916 309	Schilder	05/19/1999	
	38.	EP	0 820 725	USSC	01/28/1998	
	39.	WO	94/15537	Yoon	07/21/1994	
	40.	GB	2,054,384	Trewavas	02/18/1981	
	41.	FR	2 709 944	Cuilleron	03/24/1995	
EP	42.	EP	0087941	Ethicon	09/07/1983	

Examiner Signature	<i>Michael C. Paroff</i>	Date Considered	11-18-04
-----------------------	--------------------------	--------------------	----------

***EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.**

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p> <p>Sheet 3 of 3</p>				<p>Complete if Known</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>10/031,218</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>January 15, 2002</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Marcus FILSHIE et al.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>3761</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>02597</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	10/031,218	Filing Date	January 15, 2002	First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.	Group Art Unit	3761	Examiner Name	Unknown	Attorney Docket Number	02597
Application Number	10/031,218																
Filing Date	January 15, 2002																
First Named Inventor	Marcus FILSHIE et al.																
Group Art Unit	3761																
Examiner Name	Unknown																
Attorney Docket Number	02597																

Examiner Signature	<i>Bradford C. Orr</i>	Date Considered	11-18-04
-----------------------	------------------------	--------------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.